



Volume 55, Number 5

ACADIANA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC..

MAY 2015

## “Beginnings”

By Mark Saltzman W5GTI - AARA President

I am honored to have been elected the new President of the AARA. It was not long ago that I finally decided to get my FCC license for Amateur Radio. After searching for resources in our area, I found the AARA. My initial visit was just to see what the club had to offer as far as testing, nothing more. I was invited to attend the club meeting and what I discovered was that there was so much more to the club than just a bunch of “old timers”. The club was actually a group of people of all ages and backgrounds, not only discussing their hobby, but also coordinating activities that advance Amateur Radio within the club and in the community. Just a couple of months later, after study and practice tests, I returned, passed my exam and joined the AARA.

Since then I have witnessed the club welcome new members and say goodbye to old friends, upgrade equipment to expand its capabilities and retire old favorites, assist in local activities unrelated to radio and organize the best Hamfest on the Gulf Coast. As an amateur radio operator, develop the hobby into a small skill and use it as a public service. All of these things made possible through the AARA and fellow members.

So whether you are into DX, QRP, CW, EmComm, Contesting, Homebrewing, Satellites, EME, Boat Anchors, SDR, Digital, Antennas, or Rag Chewing, etc. you have a place in the AARA. I look forward to the coming year as President. I will rely on the membership for assistance on all issues presented to the AARA. Together we can make the AARA the most COMPLETE amateur radio organization in the area, and eventually, the entire State of Louisiana.

## AARA Member Receives ARRL Louisiana Section “Ham of the Year” Award

At the Thursday, April 2, 2015 AARA General Meeting, Jim Molan KD5IGG, ARRL Louisiana Section Manager, appeared and presented the ARRL Louisiana Section “Amateur Radio Ham of the Year” award to Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP. Glen had been nominated received this award for his outstanding work in promoting the hobby of “Amateur Radio” in the state of Louisiana.

Over the last several years, Glen has been instrumental in making the AARA Hamfest held in Rayne, Louisiana a great access. He has attended most of the hamfests in the state and several of the larger hamfest in Texas, Mississippi, and Florida. While attending these hamfest, Glen spoke to a lot of the vendors, dealers, and representatives of ham radio equipment to find ways to enhance our hamfest.

Thanks to all involved in selecting Glen for this much deserved award!

Daphne Thibodeaux, Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP & Jim Molan KD5IGG

Award



**DATES TO REMEMBER****GENERAL MEETING**

May 7, 2015 @ 7:00 PM

Red Cross Building

101 N. Pat St. Scott, LA

**VE Testing Tonight @ 6:00 PM****AREA HAMFESTS**

New Orleans Ham Radio &amp; Computer Flea Market - See page 3.

**Local 2-Meter Nets****Sunday**

Opelousas Area ARA Net 7:00 PM

147.150 PL 103.5 Carencro, LA

**Monday**

AARA Monday Night Net 7:00 PM

146.820 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

**Tuesday**

Acadiana ARES Net 7:00 PM

145.370 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

**Wednesday**

Bodie's Memorial DX Net

145.410 New Iberia, LA

**Thursday**

Youth Net 7:00 PM

146.820 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

**AARA OFFICERS 2015 - 2016****President** - Mark Saltzman W5GTI  
w5gti@cox.net**Vice Pres.** - Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD**Secretary** - Abbi Wilson KF5BEW**Treasurer** - Archie Hill—W5AG**BOARD MEMBERS**

Glen Thibodeaux - KF5FNP

Ric Wallace - KF5KEL

Tom Dischler - W5OHJ

Kendra Wilson - KF5FYS

**QSL MANAGER**

Roland Guidry - NA5Q

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR &****PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER**

Herman Campbell - KN5GRK

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P. O. Box 51174

Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-1174

Regular meetings 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the American Red Cross Building, 101**APRIL AARA CLUB MEETING MINUTES****April 02, 2015****CLUB MEETING:**

- The AARA meeting was called to order by President Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD.
- Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF said the prayer and all said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Larry LeBlanc, President, called the meeting to order and had everyone introduce themselves, as well as giving something interesting they did with Ham Radio.

**Minutes:** The March minutes were submitted by Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF, secretary, and they were posted in the April LARC. The minutes were accepted as published.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Financial Report is not published in the LARC; any member wanting a copy can contact Archie W5AG. Archie Hill reported that revenue from the Hamfest was the best we have had.

**Installation of Officers:**

Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD, outgoing President, installed the new Officers for 2015-2016.

**New Officers:**

President – Mark Saltzman W5GTI

Vice President – Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD

Secretary – Abbi Wilson KF5BEW

Treasurer – Archie Hill W5AG

**Board of Directors:**

Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP

Ric Wallace - KF5KEL

Tom Dischler W5OHJ

Kendra Wilson KF5FYS - Youth Representative

Herman Campbell KN5GRK -

Public Information Officer and Editor of LARC

Roland Guidry NA5Q - Web Page Manager

**GOALS:** Mark Saltzman W5GTI, President outlined the following goals for the Club:

- Design a new up-to-date LOGO for the Club.
- Design a new QSL card that will more nearly represent the Club.
- Design a Certificate of Appreciation to be given to people or organizations that help the Club.

All of these are to be submitted to Mark to be voted on at the next meeting.

**Field Day:** Field Day this year will be held on June 26-27, 2015. One of the criteria this year is for the location to be "the more public the better". We get more points for visitors and can show off our equipment and create interest. Moore Park soccer field with the Willow Street entrance is being looked at as a possible location. We need to start Public Relations a month ahead. Tom Dischler W5LHJ will help with the PR on television and newspapers.

**Membership:** Mark Saltzman W5GTI, President, asked if there is a list of Hams who were members, operators, and CW for him to send a letter to them.

**Presentations:** Mark mentioned that we should have presentations, tech talks, show & tells. There will be a list for people to sign up. Presentations are to inspire, inform and educate. Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD will handle the presentation list.

The goal is to make the club stronger. Maybe we could have joint participation with other clubs in Louisiana. We can participate in more events, Mardi Gras Parade, Crawfish Festival, etc. to have more exposure.

**Repeaters:** We are now responsible for 4 repeaters, all under one Trustee, Charlie Morrison N5WE. To handle the repeaters more efficiently we will have a Repeater Group that will have one Board Member.

**Board Meetings:** Mark Saltzman W5GTI, President, mentioned that there will be a Board Meeting every other month one hour before the regular monthly meeting. For the next quarter the meetings will be in May, July and September.

**LARC:** Herman Campbell is in need of an assistant to help with the LARC. He uses MS Publisher to do the LARC. Articles should be sent as a MS Word.doc, text file or e-mail.

(continued on page 4 column 2)

**MAY AARA GENERAL MEETING****Thursday May 7, 2015 @ 7:00 PM - Red Cross Building**



## Hurricane Season 2015

Here in Louisiana we have the luxury of having four seasons throughout the year. Football, Hunting, Crawfish, and yes, Hurricane season. This year, hurricane season starts June 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have not already started, use the month of May to prepare for whatever may show up on our coast.

Good things to do are:

1. Check all of your emergency gear like generators, deep cycle and rechargeable batteries, inverters, flashlights, and ensure you have fuel in safe storage such as gasoline, diesel, and/or propane.

2. Pick up emergency supplies like duct tape, plywood, tarps, non-perishable food, a supply of drinking water and alkaline or rechargeable batteries. A first aid kit should also be included. Make a list, and you can enjoy the Louisiana sales tax holiday on May 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> on certain items.

3. If you plan to leave the area during a storm, determine several routes and destinations, based on the direction of the storm. We don't know where the storm could go, make sure you know where you could go.

4. If you have trees and you are slightly worried about them during a storm, consult a tree surgeon. A reputable service will only do what is required to ensure the health and safety of the tree.

5. Review your homeowner's insurance policy and be aware of what is and what is not covered in the aftermath of a storm. Consult your agent if you are not sure.

6. Ensure that all portable buildings, containers or storage sheds are anchored properly and securely.

7. Inventory and evaluate your radio gear. Verify that you can operate portable or on backup power. If you have fixed antennas that could be damaged by a storm, have portable antennas on hand so you can keep in touch if other communication infrastructures are damaged. Check into one or more of the HF or VHF Simplex nets on backup power with a portable antenna. Have some spare lengths of coax already built with connectors. If you have crank-up or tilt over towers make sure the hardware is in good shape and will function as designed when lowering or raising the mast. Inspect your guys, shackles, cables, pulleys, and anchors.

8. During the season, keep your vehicles fuel level full or close to full. There is usually a rush to the stations when a storm is headed our way, and if the storm comes through, no electricity at the station to operate the pump and no tankers en route to re-supply.

Of course, these are not the only things you can do to prepare, but they are a good start and can be done in any order. Always consider family and friends with special needs. With God's blessing, we will weather the 2015 Hurricane season safely.

Mark W5GTI



## New Orleans Ham Radio & Computer Flea Market..... *REMEMBER, ONE MAN'S JUNK IS ANOTHER MAN'S TREASURE...*

May 16, at the Westwego Community Center located at 177 Sala Dr. Westwego, Louisiana. Doors open at 8 AM, Admission is FREE and tables are FREE. 2 Radios will be raffled off during the event. To reserve a table contact Nicholas W4NDF at [djnick7@gmail.com](mailto:djnick7@gmail.com) or at 504-430-6018 or Joe N5OZG at [Joan5ozg@cox.net](mailto:Joan5ozg@cox.net) or at 504-288-7084 VE Exam Session starts at 12:30 PM

Talk in will be on 146.82 repeater PL Tone 114.8 Hertz

Tables are going fast call now to reserve a table...

73 Joe N5OZG

## AARA HAMFEST VE TEST RESULTS

Hey Guys & Gals !!! We had a pretty good day Saturday, 21 March 2015 at the AARA Hamfest held in Rayne, Louisiana . There was some excited people and some disappointed people. I hope those that were disappointed will keep on studying and try again.

This is the results of the VE test session:

### Receiving new Technician License:

- ◆ James Bourgeois (KG5GTB) of Breaux Bridge, LA
- ◆ Weldon Moak (KG5GTC) of Broussard, LA
- ◆ Heidi Fuqua (KK6SZW) of Berkeley, CA.

### Upgrading to General Class License:

- ◆ Andrew Battaglia (KG5CJB) of Sulfur, LA
- ◆ Emile Blanchard (KG5FCB) of Houma, LA
- ◆ Samuel Haviland (KG5AYI) of Abbeville, LA
- ◆ Chad Haviland (KG5AYJ) of Abbeville, LA
- ◆ Allen Habetz (KD5NVF) of Crowley, LA
- ◆ Alton Pitre (KB5RKP) of Broussard, LA
- ◆ Michael Pomplin (KF5QPA) of New Iberia, LA
- ◆ Reymond Wilkinson (KG5GKI) of Baton Rouge, LA
- ◆ Donna Wilkinson (KG5RKH) of Baton Rouge, LA
- ◆ Roderick Bourgeois (N5LMM) of Jennings, LA
- ◆ Anita Schmidt (KG5FZE) of Weson, MS
- ◆ Lacy Breeden (KC5AJL) of Baton Rouge, LA

### Upgrading to Extra Class License:

- ◆ George Broussard (KA5HCO) of Lafayette, LA

### VE's assisting this test session were:

- ◆ GREG DOLAN II ~ K5LFT
- ◆ Ray Arceneaux ~ N5LRZ
- ◆ Tom Dischler ~ W5OHJ
- ◆ Terry Partigianoni ~ W5TMP
- ◆ Mitch Romero ~ KB5TWL
- ◆ Galen Wilson ~ KF5BET
- ◆ Kirby Comeaux ~ KI5EE
- ◆ John Mussey ~ N5FJ
- ◆ Ric Wallace ~ KF5KEL

Again Thanks to all & lets do this again, it was fun.

73, de GREG ~ K5LFT

## Article from the Amateur Radio Club of Central Louisiana April 2015 Newsletter "Brass Key"

By Bryan Haviland AF5JA - President



*Samuel KG5AYI after passing the General test.*

In case you missed it, the Rayne Hamfest was great as always. For me it was particularly so due to the fact that it was a family affair. My brother, Chad (KG5AYJ), and his family of five, which includes wife Sonya, 9 year old Sam (KG5AYI), 7 year old Owen, and 2 year old Helen all explored the event. Even my parents showed up, Norton & Barbara. And...of course, my girlfriend, Heidi Fuqua, was able to join in as well. Chad and Samuel both tested and obtained their General License. Sonya and Owen decided they should hold off for a while longer for more study. Heidi tested as well picking up her Technician License with a 6-Land call sign: KK6SZW. I didn't make it to a single forum I had intention of attending do to all of this, and that was just fine.

Many others from the CenLa area were in attendance, and seem to have enjoyed browsing the wares, meeting old and new friends, and taking in forums. Of course, many of us have developed a tradition of picking up a little iced cream, and more socializing at the local Dairy Queen before leaving town. It often makes for a full day; but, I highly recommend it.

On another note, last month I asked for input from members regarding their personal vision for the club. It was great to glean this insight. It just so happens, quite a few of the activities mentioned are transpiring in the near future. Some of them in rapid succession! I hope as many will join and enjoy the events as can. Along with that we definitely want, and could use you help. I know as for myself, it is events such as these where I am able to get to know fellow hams, working together, enjoying stories, laughing at and with each other, etc...

73 de Bryan Haviland AF5JA



*Heidi KK6SZW, Samuel KG5AYI, and Chad KG5AYJ outside the Rayne Community Center with their exam certificates.*

## AARA 55<sup>th</sup> Acadiana Hamfest Main Prize Winners

### Grand Prize: KENWOOD TS-590SG 160 - 6 Meter

(Amateur Transceiver (Donated by Kenwood) - Arnold Lemair KE5JXC of Kaplan, LA

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize:** Yaesu FT1-DR Dual Band Digital/Analog - Virginia Bryant KE5DJA of Leesville, LA

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize:** MFJ 269A Antenna Analyzer (Donated by MFJ) - Scott Menard of Scott, LA

**4<sup>th</sup> Prize:** MFJ OCF Dipole Antenna - Substitute - LaCrosse Weather Station Model WS-2810U-IT - Tom Dischler W5OHJ of Eunice, LA

**5<sup>th</sup> Prize:** ARRL 1 Year Membership - Archie Hill W5AG of Lafayette, LA

**6<sup>th</sup> Prize:** Baofeng UV-5R Dual Band - Frank Krite III K5SVC of Church Hill, MS

Kirby Comeaux KI5EE of Lake Charles, LA won the "Fox Hunt", his prize was 100 raffle tickets.

## AARA April 2015 Minutes (from page 2 column 3)

**Hamfest:** Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP and Galen Wilson KF5BET are Co-Chairmen for the Hamfest reported the following:

- ⇒ Need silent auction table and someone to be in charge.
- ⇒ Some people mentioned that the Green Room (Forums) was too far to walk.
- ⇒ Need to mark off "Tailgating".
- ⇒ Door prizes on Friday night.
- ⇒ Raffle prizes on Friday night.
- ⇒ Increase the number of people selling things.
- ⇒ Detail schedule for announcer, list of Forums, maps, etc.
- ⇒ Someone assigned to "Test Table"

Glen wanted to **thank** everyone who helped with the Hamfest. It is a "Team Effort". No one can do it alone.

**Red Cross Building:** Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP, AJ Degeyer KF5THS, and Bob Cooley KG5FMQ installed cabinets, a dishwasher, and a new sink in the kitchen. They cleaned out the back room and set up cubicles for offices. It looks great.

**Antenna Trailer:** Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD, thanked all who helped raise and lower the antenna at the Hamfest. Many people came by to check it out. Good Job!

**Handi-Talkie Drawing:** Each year the club gives away a prize to **members** who attend the AARA General Meeting.

Each time you attend the meeting, your name and call is entered into the drawing.



The prize this year was a Baofeng BF-F9 V2, with spare battery and programming cable. The lucky winner was Galen Wilson KF5BET. It will be presented to him at the May General Meeting.

On motion by Tom Dischler W5OHJ, seconded by Derek Meche WM5TS, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,

Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF  
Secretary 2014-2015

## APRIL 2015 ACADIANA AREA 2 METER NET REPORTS

NET	SESSIONS:	TOTAL CHECK-INS:	TOTAL TRAFFIC:	TOTAL TIME: Minutes	Net Manager
AARA Monday Night Net	4	64	Ø	110	W5GTI Mark
OAARC Net - Opelousas Area Amateur Radio Club	2	14	Ø	25	N5LRZ Ray
Acadiana ARES Net	4	27	Ø	50	N5LRZ Ray
Bodie's Memorial DX Net	4	15	3	80	N5LRZ Ray
Youth Thursday Night Net	5	65	Ø	144	KF5BEW Abbi KF5FYS Kendra

It does not matter how slowly you go as long as you do not stop.

- Confucius

## AARA Monday Night 2 Meter Net Rotation

Mark W5GTI, the net control station, for the AARA Monday Night Net had suggested that the net be rotated between three different area repeaters. Here is the May 2015 schedule:

DATE:	TIME:	REPEATER:	PL TONE:
May 4	7:00 PM	147.040	103.5
May 11	7:00 PM	146.820	103.5
May 18	7:00 PM	145.370	103.5
May 25	7:00 PM	147.040	103.5

When using the SkyWarn 145.370 repeater, be sure to use the receiver PL Tone for your area as follows:

NW Quadrant 114.8 - NE Quadrant 127.3 - SW Quadrant 141.3 - SE Quadrant 94.8.

The May 2015 schedule can be downloaded and printed in Adobe Acrobat .PDF from the club website at:

[http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/files/monday\\_net.pdf](http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/files/monday_net.pdf)

**Notice:** Mark W5GTI announced again that he would continue the AARA Monday Night Net contest for 2015.

The top 10 check-ins on the Monday Night AAARA Net during 2015 will get their call/name entered into a drawing and a winner from the top 10 check-ins will receive a Chinese import dual band handi-talkie paid for by Mark W5GTI. **HOW ABOUT THAT?** So be sure to check into the net and thanks to Mark in keeping the net active.

## AARA



## UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

5/6	W4JHC	JOHN
5/11	KC5VDK	DEBORAH
5/17	KB5TWL	MITCH
5/18	KE5HSY	LINDA
5/26	N5WE	CHARLES
5/26	KD5TJZ	KATHY
6/5	KE5RPI	KAREN
6/7	K5VXX	JOE

Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership causing some names to be missing from the list.

## SkyWarn Training Class



In an effort to gauge interest in a SkyWarn training session to be held in the Lafayette area, we are looking for those who may be interested in attending a SkyWarn training class on storm spotting and assist the NWS during severe weather.

Please send your Name, Call, E-Mail and City of residence to the e-mail listed below (w5gti@cox.net) only if you would be interested in attending.

If we have enough operators interested to warrant, we will attempt to schedule a class to be held in Lafayette, in the near future and you will be notified.

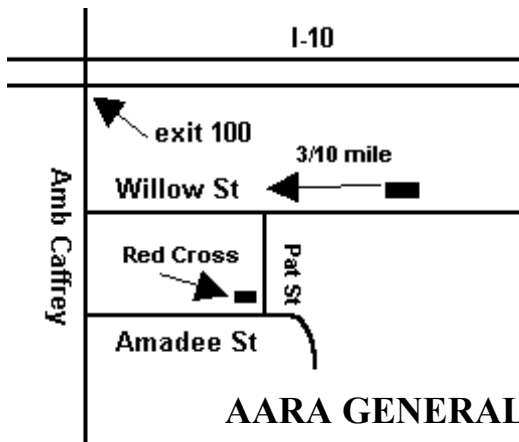
Thanks,

Mark W5GTI w5gti@cox.net



Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.  
P. O. Box 51174  
Lafayette, LA 70505-1174

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



## AARA GENERAL MEETING

**May 7, 2015 @ 7:00 PM**

**Red Cross Building - 101 N. Pat St. Scott, LA**

**VE Testing Tonight @ 6:00 PM**

**Lunch Bunch - Each Wednesday 10:45 AM - 2:00 PM**

Golden Corral - Amb. Caffery - Lafayette, LA

Check 146.820 PL 103.5 - repeater for info.

COMPLIMENTARY  
ISSUE

## Made-Over Blackened Cajun Skillet Fries

Recipe courtesy of Food Network Kitchens

- 3 medium russet potatoes
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 teaspoon Cajun seasoning

- 3 tablespoons nonfat Greek yogurt
- 1 tablespoon Creole mustard
- Kosher salt

### Directions:

Preheat the oven to 425 degrees F. Cut the potatoes into long wedges about 1-inch thick. Toss the potatoes with the olive oil and Cajun seasoning. Heat an ovenproof large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat and add the potatoes in a single layer. Cook, turning, until browned on all sides, about 15 minutes. Slowly add 1/4 cup water to the skillet and transfer the entire skillet to the oven.

Continue to cook the potatoes, turning once, until the potatoes are tender and the outsides are crisped, about 20 more minutes. Meanwhile, mix the yogurt with the mustard and a pinch salt. Serve the potatoes warm with the mustard dipping sauce.



## FCC Information Service

Toll Free (WATS) for Amateur Radio license inquiries about new/vanity call signs: 888-225-5322. This will connect you the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at: 202-414-1250 or:

**[ulscomm@fcc.gov](mailto:ulscomm@fcc.gov)**

FCC Website:

**<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>**

New call sign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

**<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>**

The mailing address to the FCC is:

Federal Communications Commission, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245